



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Bookbinder, et al.)
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Serial No: 09/447,077) Art Group Unit: 1762
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Filing Date: 11/22/1999) Examiner: W. Markham
)
Title: METHODS FOR PROTECTING SILICA-)
CONTAINING ARTICLE AND)
INHIBITING BREAKS DURING)
DRAWING OF OPTICAL FIBER, AND)
SILICA-CONTAINING ARTICLE)
PROTECTED AGAINST BREAK-)
INDUCING PARTICULATES)

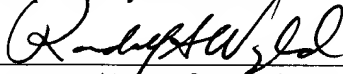
Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO OFFICIAL ACTION

Applicants, through counsel, respectfully request a one (1) month extension of time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), or such other extension of time as is necessary, to respond to the Office Action dated December 01, 2003 currently due. Please charge the fee of \$110.00, and any additional fees or surcharges necessary to make this response timely, to the deposit account of the undersigned corporation, Deposit Account No. 03-3325, and credit any overpayment.

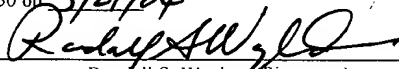
Date: 3/24/04

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney/Agent for Assignee
Randall S. Wayland
Reg. No.:36,303
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SP-TI-3-1
Corning, NY 14831
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8: I hereby certify that this paper and any papers referred to herein are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, as first class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, Alexandria, Va 22313-1450 on 3/24/04



Randall S. Wayland (Signature)